



General Assembly

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Fifty-fourth session

Third Committee

Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

**Afghanistan, Bahrain, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sudan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan:
draft resolution**

Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination³ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁴

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote and protect cultural diversity, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Cultural Cooperation,⁵ proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,

Reaffirming that cultural diversity and the rights of all peoples and nations to freely pursue their cultural development is a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of mankind,

Considering that ignorance of cultural diversity and intolerance towards various cultures hinders friendship among nations, peaceful cooperation and the progress of mankind,

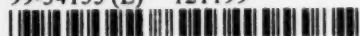
¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁴ Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁵ See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.



Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value which must be respected and preserved, and convinced also that in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all mankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism, tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would enhance the right of all peoples and nations to preserve their cultures and traditions and engage in mutually enriching exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the right of all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in an international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all peoples and nations will enhance cultural pluralism, contributing to wider exchange of knowledge and cultural background, advance the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and foster stable friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

3. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national and international levels is essential for the recognition of and respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity and the protection of the rights of all peoples and nations to freely pursue their cultural development;

4. *Calls upon* States, international organizations, United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights, to recognize and respect cultural diversity and uphold the principle that all peoples and nations have the right to hold, develop and preserve their culture;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.



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Human rights questions: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights² and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,² the international Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,³ the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,⁴ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,⁵ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ as well as to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,⁷

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ Resolution 39/46, annex.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

⁵ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁶ Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁷ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.



Recalling its previous resolutions on this subject, including the most recent, resolution 53/160 of 9 December 1998, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/56 of 27 April 1999,⁸ as well as Security Council resolution 1234 (1999) of 9 April 1999, and mindful of Security Council resolution 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999,

Recognizing that promotion and protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region and will contribute to the creation of the necessary environment for cooperation among States in the region,

Taking into account the regional dimension of the human rights issues in the Great Lakes region, while underlining the primary responsibility of States for the promotion and protection of human rights, and stressing the importance of technical cooperation with a view to strengthening regional cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to request the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances to carry out a joint mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo,⁸ while noting that the security situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo does not yet allow such a mission,

Noting the stated intention of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo progressively to abolish the death penalty,

1. *Welcomes:*

(a) The report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;⁹

(b) The two visits in February and August/September 1999 of the Special Rapporteur to the Democratic Republic of the Congo at the invitation of the Government and the cooperation of the Government in this regard;

(c) The activities of the Human Rights Field Office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while encouraging the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to work closely and to further strengthen its cooperation with the Field Office;

(d) The Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement of 10 July 1999, signed by all parties involved in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 31 August 1999;¹⁰

(e) The appointment by the Secretary-General of a Special Envoy for the peace process for the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(f) The appointment of the Minister of Human Rights within the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and expresses the hope that this appointment will contribute to an improvement of the situation of human rights;

(g) The commitment by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations in ensuring demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of child soldiers, and calls upon the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to fully implement its commitment;

⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

⁹ A/54/361 and Corr. 1.

¹⁰ S/1999/815.

2. *Expresses its concern:*

(a) At the adverse impact of the conflict on the situation of human rights and its severe consequences for the security and well-being of the civilian population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(b) At the preoccupying situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, particularly in the eastern parts of the country, and the continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law committed throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, often with impunity, in particular:

(i) The perpetration of massacres, in the course of the conflicts, including, more recently, in 1998 and 1999, those in Kasika, Makobola, Kamituga, Kavumu, Kilungutwe, Kasanga, Kazima, Mboko, Kabare, Mwenga and Libenge;

(ii) The occurrence of cases of summary or arbitrary executions, disappearances, torture, beatings, arbitrary arrest and detention without trial, including of journalists, opposition politicians, human rights defenders and people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms, and reports of sexual violence against women and children and the continuing recruitment and use of child soldiers;

(iii) The trial of civilians and the imposition of the death penalty by the Military Court in disregard of the provisions contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;²

(c) At the excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons and the illicit distribution, circulation and trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

(d) At the persecution of human rights defenders and their organizations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

3. *Urges all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:*

(a) To work for the full and timely implementation of the provisions of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement and to re-establish the authority of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo throughout its territory, and stresses, in the context of a lasting peaceful settlement, the need for the engagement of all Congolese in an all-inclusive process of political dialogue with a view to achieving national reconciliation and the holding of democratic, free, transparent and fair elections;

(b) To protect human rights and to respect international humanitarian law, in particular, as applicable to them, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,⁴ and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977¹¹ and the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,¹² especially with regard to respect for the rights of women and children, and to ensure the safety of all civilians, including refugees and internally displaced persons within the territory of that country regardless of their origin;

(c) To ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of the United Nations and associated personnel within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and, in this regard, to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations;

(d) To cease all military activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

¹¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

¹² Resolution 260 A (III).

(e) To bring an end to all violations of human rights and to ensure that there is no impunity for human rights violators;

(f) To cooperate fully with the National Commission of Inquiry on the alleged massacres of a large number of refugees and displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and also with the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in addressing these allegations, with a view to the submission of a further report by the National Commission of Inquiry to the Secretary-General on the progress of its investigations on this question;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(a) To comply with its obligations under international human rights law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(b) To fulfil its responsibility to protect the human rights of the population on its territory, as well as to take a leading part in efforts to prevent conditions that might lead to further flows of internally displaced persons and refugees within the Democratic Republic of the Congo and across its borders;

(c) To uphold its commitment to reform and restore the judicial system and in particular to reform military justice in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and encourages provisional assistance to this end;

(d) To implement fully its commitment to the democratization process, in particular the national dialogue, as set out in the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, and to create, in this context, conditions that would allow for a democratization process that is genuine and all-inclusive and that fully reflects the aspirations of all people of the country;

(e) To put an end to impunity and to make sure that those responsible for human rights violations are brought to justice;

(f) To remove remaining administrative restrictions on the activities of political parties and to prepare for the holding of democratic, free, transparent and fair elections;

(g) To remove the restrictions that still affect the work of non-governmental organizations and to promote human rights awareness, including by strengthening cooperation with civil society, including all human rights organizations;

(h) To ensure full respect for freedom of opinion and expression, including freedom of the press in relation to all types of mass media, as well as freedom of association and assembly;

(i) To cooperate fully with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 in ensuring that all those responsible for the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and other grave violations of human rights are brought to justice in accordance with international principles of due process;

5. *Decides* to continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and requests the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.



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Human rights questions: Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ article 26 of which states that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms", and the provisions of other international human rights instruments, such as those of article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² article 10 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women,³ article 7 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,⁴ article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁵ article 10 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment⁶ and paragraphs

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁴ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵ Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁶ Resolution 39/46, annex.



78 to 82 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,⁷ which reflect the aims of the aforementioned article,

Recalling the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights, the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,

Believing that the World Public Information Campaign is a valuable complement to the activities of the United Nations aimed at the further promotion and protection of human rights, and recalling the importance attached by the World Conference on Human Rights to human rights education and information,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect,

Recognizing that human rights education and information are essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed programmes of training, dissemination and information can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society such as children, youth, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome and disabled persons,

Taking into account the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

Recognizing the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations can play in disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

Aware of the potential supportive role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004,⁸ and the World Public Information Campaign, through creative initiatives and financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities,

⁷ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

⁸ A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

Convinced that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Taking note with appreciation of the increased efforts undertaken so far by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to disseminate human rights information through its Web site⁹ and its publications and external relations programmes,

Welcoming the initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner further to develop the project "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

Recalling that, according to the Plan of Action for the Decade for Human Rights Education, in 2000 a mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade shall be undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004, and public information activities in the field of human rights,¹⁰ including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights;

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organization to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995-2004,⁸ and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by establishing, in accordance with national conditions, broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights¹¹ within the framework of the Decade;

4. *Urges* Governments to encourage, support and involve national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within the national plans mentioned in paragraphs 3 and 4 above, the establishment of public access to human rights resource and training centres capable of engaging in research, gender-sensitive training of trainers, preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials, organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

⁹ www.unhchr.ch.

¹⁰ A/54/399 and Add. 1.

¹¹ A/52/469/Add. 1 and Add. 1/Corr. 1.

6. *Also encourages* Governments, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres already exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with their national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination in their relevant national and local languages of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights² and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, as well as reports of States parties under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public information efforts undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights within the framework of the Plan of Action for the Decade;

9. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to coordinate and harmonize rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the Web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,⁹ in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties under international human rights instruments, and, to this end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* and the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign, and the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations such as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation

of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies to place emphasis, when examining reports of States parties, on obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and information and to reflect this emphasis in their concluding observations;

16. *Calls upon* international, regional and national non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with women, labour, development, food, housing, education, health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in implementing the Plan of Action;

17. *Urges* Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the mid-term global evaluation to be undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner in 2000, of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade by providing appropriate information on steps undertaken in this regard;

18. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue implementation of the "Assisting Communities Together" project and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations.

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the High Commissioner for Human Rights, to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information, and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session the mid-term global evaluation report of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade for consideration under the item entitled "Human rights questions".



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Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay: draft resolution

**Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons
Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities**

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, as well as its subsequent resolutions on the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,

Considering that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities contribute to political and social stability and peace and enrich the cultural heritage of society as a whole in the States in which such persons live,

Concerned by the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts concerning minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and concerned also that persons belonging to minorities are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, *inter alia*, population transfers, refugee flows and forced relocation,

Acknowledging that the United Nations has an increasingly important role to play regarding the protection of minorities by, *inter alia*, taking due account of and giving effect to the Declaration,



Noting that the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights of the Commission on Human Rights held its fourth and fifth sessions from 25 to 29 May 1998¹ and 25 to 31 May 1999,² respectively,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, in accordance with the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;
3. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country;
4. *Also urges* States to take, as appropriate, all the necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures to promote and give effect to the Declaration;
5. *Recognizes* that respect for human rights and the promotion of understanding and tolerance by Governments as well as between and among minorities are central to the protection and promotion of the rights of persons belonging to minorities;
6. *Appeals* to States to make bilateral and multilateral efforts, as appropriate, in order to protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in their countries, in accordance with the Declaration;
7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including the prevention and resolution of disputes, to assist in existing or potential situations involving minorities;
8. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote, within her mandate, the implementation of the Declaration and to continue to engage in a dialogue with Governments concerned for that purpose;
9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue her efforts to improve the coordination and cooperation among United Nations programmes and agencies on activities related to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and to take the work of relevant regional organizations active in the field of human rights into account in her endeavours;
10. *Calls upon* the High Commissioner to resume inter-agency consultations with United Nations programmes and agencies on minority issues, and urges those programmes and agencies to contribute actively to this process;
11. *Encourages* intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;
12. *Calls upon* the Working Group on Minorities of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to further implement its mandate with the involvement of a wide range of participants;

¹ E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/18.

² E/CN.4/Sub.2/1999/21.

³ A/54/303.

13. *Invites* the High Commissioner to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation, including through training seminars, in the work of the Working Group on Minorities of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to minorities, in particular those from developing countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on good practices in the fields of education and the effective participation of minorities in decision-making processes;

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session under the item "Human rights questions".



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Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

Human rights in the administration of justice

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the principles embodied in articles 3, 5, 8, 9 and 10 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocol thereto,² in particular article 6 of the Covenant, which, *inter alia*, states that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life and prohibits the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons below eighteen years of age, and article 10, which provides that all persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person,

Bearing in mind also the relevant provisions of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,³ the International Convention

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex, and resolution 44/128, annex.

³ Resolution 39/46, annex.



on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁴ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁵

Recalling in particular article 37 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, according to which every child deprived of liberty shall be treated in a manner which takes into account the needs of persons of his or her age,

Mindful of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁶ in particular of the obligation of States to treat men and women equally in all stages of procedures in courts and tribunals,

Calling attention to the numerous international standards in the field of the administration of justice,

Aware of the need for special vigilance with regard to the vulnerable situation of children and juveniles, as well as women and girls, in detention,

Recalling the Guidelines for Action on Children in the Criminal Justice System⁷ and the establishment of a coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice,

Emphasizing that the right to access to justice as contained in applicable international human rights instruments forms an important basis for strengthening the rule of law through the administration of justice,

Mindful of the importance of establishing the rule of law and promoting human rights in the administration of justice, in particular in post-conflict situations, as a crucial contribution to building peace and justice,

Recalling its resolution 52/124 of 12 December 1997, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/39 of 17 April 1998⁸ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/28 of 29 July 1999 on the administration of juvenile justice,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of the full and effective implementation of all United Nations standards on human rights in the administration of justice;

2. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States to spare no effort in providing for effective legislative, mechanisms and procedures, as well as adequate resources, to ensure the full implementation of those standards;

3. *Invites* Governments to provide training, including gender-sensitive training, in human rights in the administration of justice, including juvenile justice, to all judges, lawyers, prosecutors, social workers, immigration and police officers, and other professionals concerned, including personnel deployed in international field presences;

4. *Stresses* the special need for national capacity-building in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, in particular through reform of the judiciary, the police and the penal system;

5. *Invites* States to make use of technical assistance offered by the relevant United Nations programmes in order to strengthen national capacities and infrastructures in the field of the administration of justice;

⁴ Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

⁵ Resolution 44/25, annex.

⁶ Resolution 34/180, annex.

⁷ Economic and Social Council resolution 1997/30, annex.

⁸ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3 (E/1998/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

6. *Invites* the international community to respond favourably to requests for financial and technical assistance for the enhancement and strengthening of the administration of justice;

7. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its subsidiary bodies, including special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups, to continue to give special attention to questions relating to the effective promotion of human rights in the administration of justice and to provide, where appropriate, specific recommendations in this regard, including proposals for measures to provide advisory services and technical assistance;

8. *Takes note* of the increased attention to the issue of juvenile justice by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and encourages further activities, within her mandate, in this regard;

9. *Encourages* the regional commissions, the specialized agencies and United Nations institutes in the areas of human rights and crime prevention and criminal justice and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, including national professional associations concerned with promoting United Nations standards in this field, to continue to develop their activities in promoting human rights in the administration of justice ;

10. *Calls upon* the coordination panel on technical advice and assistance in juvenile justice to increase cooperation among the partners involved, to share information and pool their capacities and interests in order to increase the effectiveness of programme implementation;

11. *Invites* the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to coordinate closely their activities relating to the administration of justice;

12. *Underlines* the importance of rebuilding and strengthening structures for the administration of justice, respect for the rule of law and human rights in post-conflict situations, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure system-wide coordination and coherence of programmes and activities of the relevant parts of the United Nations system in the field of the administration of justice in post-conflict situations, including assistance provided through United Nations field presences;

13. *Decides* to consider the question of human rights in the administration of justice at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cape Verde, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal and Uruguay: draft resolution

Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Considering that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,² the International Conference on Population and Development,³ the World Summit for Social Development⁴ and the Fourth World Conference on Women,⁵

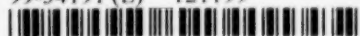
¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution I, annex.

⁴ See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.

⁵ See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution I, annexes I and II.



Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/44 of 27 April 1999 on the human rights of migrants,⁶ and of its decision to appoint a special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants,

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants frequently find themselves, owing, among other things, to their absence from their State of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles for the return of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation to their States of origin,

Deeply concerned at the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

Taking note with appreciation of the recommendations on strengthening the promotion, protection and implementation of the human rights of migrants, of the working group of intergovernmental experts⁷ established by the Commission on Human Rights,

Noting the efforts made by States to penalize the international trafficking of migrants and to protect the victims of this illegal activity,

Taking note of the decisions of the relevant international juridical bodies on questions relating to migrants, particularly Advisory Opinion OC-16/99 of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights regarding the Right to Information about Consular Assistance within the Framework of Due Process Guarantees,

1. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,⁸ the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,⁹ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹⁰ the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,¹¹ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,¹² the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹³ and other applicable international human rights instruments;

⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.*

⁷ E/CN.4/1999/80, paras. 102-124.

⁸ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁹ Resolution 39/46, annex.

¹⁰ Resolution 34/180, annex.

¹¹ Resolution 45/158, annex.

¹² Resolution 34/180, annex.

¹³ Resolution 44/25, annex.

2. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia as regards access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

3. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory policies and practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

4. *Reiterates* the need for all States to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to provide humane treatment, particularly with regard to assistance and protection, including those under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, regarding the right to receive consular assistance from the country of origin;

5. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to appoint a special rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to examine ways and means to overcome the obstacles existing to the full and effective protection of the human rights of this vulnerable group, including obstacles and difficulties for the return of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation, with the following functions:

(a) To request and receive information from all relevant sources, including migrants themselves, on violations of the human rights of migrants and their families;

(b) To formulate appropriate recommendations to prevent and remedy violations of the human rights of migrants, wherever they may occur;

(c) To promote the effective application of relevant international norms and standards on the issue;

(d) To recommend actions and measures applicable at the national, regional and international levels to eliminate violations of the human rights of migrants;

(e) To take into account a gender perspective when requesting and analysing information, as well as to give special attention to the occurrence of multiple discrimination and violence against migrant women;

6. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated and to furnish all information requested, including by reacting promptly to his/her urgent appeals;

7. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat international trafficking of migrants, taking into account, in particular, when it endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt, bondage, servitude, sexual or labour exploitation, as well as to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Argentina, Australia, Austria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa and Sweden: draft resolution

Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons

The General Assembly,

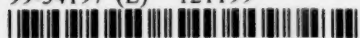
Deeply disturbed by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious problem this is creating for the international community,

Conscious of the human rights and the humanitarian dimensions of the problem of internally displaced persons and the responsibilities this poses for States and the international community to explore methods and means better to address their protection and assistance needs,

Recalling the relevant norms of international human rights instruments, of international humanitarian law and analogous refugee law, and emphasizing the need for their better implementation with regard to internally displaced persons,

Recalling also the emphasis in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,¹ on the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement,

¹ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



Deplores practices of forced displacement, in particular ethnic cleansing, and the negative impact they constitute for the enjoyment of fundamental human rights by large groups of populations,

Noting the progress made thus far by the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons in developing a legal framework, analysing institutional arrangements, undertaking dialogue with Governments and issuing a series of reports on particular country situations, together with proposals for remedial measures,

Welcoming the cooperation established between the representative of the Secretary-General and the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, in particular the participation of the representative of the Secretary-General in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better assistance, protection and development strategies for internally displaced persons,

Welcoming the publication and the wide dissemination of the compilation and analysis of legal norms prepared by the representative of the Secretary-General, in particular the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,²

Recalling its resolution 52/130 of 12 December 1997,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the oral report of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons;³

2. *Commends* the representative of the Secretary-General for the activities undertaken so far, despite the limited resources available to him, and for the catalytic role he continues to play in raising the level of consciousness about the plight of internally displaced persons;

3. *Encourages* the representative of the Secretary-General to continue his analysis of the causes of internal displacement, the needs of those displaced, measures of prevention and ways to increase protection, assistance and solutions for internally displaced persons, including their safe return;

4. *Also encourages* the representative of the Secretary-General to continue to pay specific attention in his review to the protection and assistance needs of women and children, bearing in mind the relevant strategic objective in the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action;⁴

5. *Welcomes* the study prepared by the representative of the Secretary-General to promote a comprehensive strategy for better protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons;

6. *Notes* the development by the representative of the Secretary-General, on the basis of his compilation and analysis of legal norms, of a comprehensive framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, in particular the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement;²

² E/CN.4/1999/53 and Add.1-2.

³ A/C.3/54/SR.35.

⁴ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

7. *Welcomes* the fact that the representative of the Secretary-General has made use of the Guiding Principles⁵ in his dialogue with Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and requests him to continue his efforts in that regard;

8. *Notes with appreciation* that the United Nations agencies, regional and non-governmental organizations are making use of the Guiding Principles in their work and encourages the further dissemination and application of the Guiding Principles;

9. *Calls upon* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the representative of the Secretary-General, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, encourages them to give serious consideration to inviting the representative to visit their countries so as to enable him to study and analyse more fully the issues involved, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

10. *Invites* Governments to give due consideration, in dialogue with the representative of the Secretary-General, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

11. *Urges* all relevant United Nations humanitarian assistance and development organizations concerned to enhance their collaboration with the representative of the Secretary-General by developing frameworks of cooperation, especially through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, to promote protection, assistance and development for internally displaced persons and to provide all possible assistance and support to him;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts to establish a global information system on internally displaced persons, as advocated by the representative of the Secretary-General, and encourages the members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to continue to collaborate in these efforts;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give all necessary assistance to the representative to carry out his mandate effectively;

14. *Requests* the representative of the Secretary-General to prepare, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to continue its consideration of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its fifty-sixth session.

⁵ E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2.



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Agenda item 16 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Venezuela: draft resolution

Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, annexed to that resolution,

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration,

Convinced of the important role of the Commission on Human Rights in following up the Declaration,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of these activities,

1. *Calls upon* Governments, specialized agencies and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to submit, at the request of the Secretary-General, based



on Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/66 of 28 April 1999,¹ proposals and ideas that should contribute substantially to further work on the implementation of the Declaration;

2. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to consider at its fifty-sixth session the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to Commission resolution 1999/66;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on measures to implement the Declaration;

4. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human Rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Georgia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Turkmenistan: draft resolution

Human rights and terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations² and the International Covenants on Human Rights,³

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,⁴

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights in 1993,⁵ in which the Conference reaffirmed that terrorism is indeed aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy,

Recalling further its resolutions 48/122 of 20 December 1993, 49/185 of 23 December 1994, 50/186 of 22 December 1995 and 52/133 of 12 December 1997,

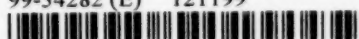
¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

³ Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

⁴ See resolution 50/6.

⁵ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



Recalling in particular its resolution 52/133, in which it requested the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling previous resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular resolution 1999/27 of 26 April 1999,⁶ as well as the relevant resolutions of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Alarmed that acts of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations aimed at the destruction of human rights have continued despite national and international efforts,

Bearing in mind that the most essential and basic human right is the right to life,

Bearing in mind also that terrorism creates an environment that destroys the right of people to live in freedom from fear,

Reiterating that all States have an obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms and that every individual should strive to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance,

Seriously concerned about the gross violations of human rights perpetrated by terrorist groups,

Profoundly deploring the increasing number of innocent persons, including women, children and the elderly, killed, massacred and maimed by terrorists in indiscriminate and random acts of violence and terror, which cannot be justified under any circumstances,

Noting with great concern the growing connection between the terrorist groups and other criminal organizations engaged in the illegal traffic in arms and drugs at the national and international levels, as well as the consequent commission of serious crimes such as murder, extortion, kidnapping, assault, the taking of hostages and robbery,

Emphasizing the importance of Member States' taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who plan, finance or commit terrorist acts by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition,

Mindful of the need to protect the human rights of and guarantees for the individual in accordance with the relevant human rights principles and instruments, in particular the right to life,

Reaffirming that all measures to counter terrorism must be in strict conformity with the relevant provisions of international law including international human rights standards,

1. *Expresses its solidarity* with the victims of terrorism;
2. *Condemns* the violations of the right to live free from fear and of the right to life, liberty and security;
3. *Reiterates its unequivocal condemnation* of the acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, as activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States, destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, undermining pluralistic civil society and having adverse consequences for the economic and social development of States;
4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary and effective measures in accordance with relevant provisions of international law, including international human rights standards,

⁶ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomever committed;

5. *Urges* the international community to enhance cooperation at the regional and international levels in the fight against terrorism, in accordance with relevant international instruments, including those relating to human rights, with the aim of its eradication;

6. *Condemns* the incitement of ethnic hatred, violence and terrorism;

7. *Urges* Member States to comply with the principle *aut dedere aut judicare* with a view to bringing to trial the organizers and perpetrators of terrorist acts, as well as their accomplices;

8. *Commends* those Governments that have communicated their views on the implications of terrorism in response to the Secretary-General's note verbale dated 16 August 1999;

9. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General⁷ and requests him to continue to seek the views of Member States on the implications of terrorism, in all its forms and manifestations, for the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, with a view to incorporating them in his report;

10. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

⁷ A/54/439.



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Algeria, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Pakistan: draft resolution

Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,²

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights³ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more susceptible to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.



Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Alarmed at the instability and unpredictability generated by many economies through the untrammelled movement of capital resulting from the globalization of finances, and its extremely negative impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights by the peoples of those countries,

Recognizing that the liberalization of global trade and the growth in the private sector have led to an evolution of the role of government, having a bearing on the rights of individuals and communities,

Deeply concerned that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries has deepened poverty and adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples in particular in developing countries,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of cultures, identities and human rights and that, in that regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that while globalization, by its impact on the role of the State, affects human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Emphasizes* that narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor both within and between countries should be the explicit global goal as part of the efforts to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights by all peoples and for the eradication of poverty;

3. *Underlines* the need to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

4. *Affirms* the importance of establishing an open, rule-based, accountable, predictable, just, equitable, comprehensive, development-oriented and non-discriminatory global system of economic relations for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

5. *Expresses concern* that while globalization holds out the promise of prosperity, it brings with it severe challenges for the developing countries, and that the promise of prosperity has not touched the vast majority of the world's population, especially in the least developed countries, which affects the economic, social and cultural rights of their people;

6. *Stresses* that globalization has to be managed and monitored at the international level with a view to enhancing its positive impact and alleviating its negative consequences for the enjoyment of all human rights;

7. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex historical process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, and has a direct impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular the right to development, at both the national and the international level;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a comprehensive report on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights.



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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Algeria, Bangladesh, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Malaysia, Pakistan: revised draft resolution

Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,²

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights³ and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,³

Reaffirming the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

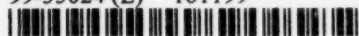
Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more susceptible to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

³ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.



Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process, but also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Recognizing that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of cultures, identities and human rights and that, in that regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that while globalization, by its impact on, *inter alia*, the role of the State, affects human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Takes note of* the request by the Commission on Human Rights to the Sub-Commission for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to undertake a study, based on the reports of the treaty bodies, special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups of the Commission, on the issue of globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, for the consideration of the Commission at its fifty-seventh session;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account the different views of Member States, to submit a comprehensive report on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights, to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session.



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Costa Rica, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden and United States of America: draft resolution

Situation of human rights in Cambodia

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights¹ and the International Covenants on Human Rights,²

Recalling the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict, signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,³ including part III thereof, relating to human rights,

Recalling also its resolution 53/145 of 9 December 1998, Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/76 of 28 April 1999⁴ and previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing that the tragic history of Cambodia requires special measures to ensure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ A/46/608-S/23177, annex.

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.



Desiring that the international community continue to respond positively to assist efforts to investigate the tragic history of Cambodia, including responsibility for past international crimes, such as acts of genocide and crimes against humanity,

Bearing in mind the letter dated 15 March 1999 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council⁵ and the report of the Group of Experts appointed by the Secretary-General in response to the request by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law,⁶

Recognizing the legitimate concern of the Government and people of Cambodia in the pursuit of internationally accepted principles of justice and of national reconciliation,

Recognizing also that accountability of individual perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Welcoming the continuing role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and protection of human rights in Cambodia,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the continued functioning of the operational presence in Cambodia of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

2. *Takes note* with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Cambodia,⁷ and notes in particular the concerns of the Special Representative about the problem of impunity, the need to promote and protect the independence of the judiciary and to establish the rule of law, and the need for the reform of police and the military;

3. *Welcomes* the agreement by the Government of Cambodia to extend the memorandum of understanding for the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights at Phnom Penh until March 2002, enabling the office to continue its operations and to maintain its technical cooperation programmes, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the office;

4. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to continue to take the necessary measures to develop an independent, impartial and effective judicial system, including through the early adoption of the draft statute on magistrates, a penal code and a code on criminal procedures, and the reform of the administration of justice, and appeals to the international community to assist the Government to this end;

5. *Commends* the efforts by the Government of Cambodia to review, and its stated commitment to reduce the number of, the police and the military, urges the Government to take further measures to carry out effective reform aimed towards professional and impartial police and military forces, and invites the international community to assist the Government to this end;

⁵ A/43/850-S/1999/231.

⁶ *Ibid.*, annex.

⁷ A/54/353.

6. *Also commends* the vital and valuable role played by non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, *inter alia*, in the development of civil society, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to work with non-governmental organizations in efforts to strengthen and uphold human rights in Cambodia;

7. *Notes with interest* the activities undertaken by the governmental Cambodian Human Rights Committee, the National Assembly Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints and the Senate Commission on Human Rights and Reception of Complaints, and welcomes preliminary efforts to establish an independent national human rights commission which should be based on international standards, such as the Paris Principles,⁸ and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide advice and technical assistance in these efforts;

8. *Expresses grave concern* about numerous instances of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial executions, torture, illegal arrests and detention, as detailed in the reports of the Special Representative, and takes note of some progress made by the Government of Cambodia in addressing these issues;

9. *Also expresses grave concern* about the situation of impunity in Cambodia, commends the commitment and efforts by the Government of Cambodia to tackle this question, such as amending article 51 of the 1994 Law on Civil Servants, and calls upon the Government to take further measures, as a matter of priority, to investigate urgently and prosecute, in accordance with due process of law and international human rights standards, all those who have perpetrated violations of human rights;

10. *Reaffirms* that the most serious human rights violations in Cambodia in recent history have been committed by the Khmer Rouge, welcomes the final collapse of the Khmer Rouge which has paved the way for the investigation and prosecution of its leaders, and takes note with interest of the steps taken by the Government of Cambodia to bring to justice the Khmer Rouge leaders most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights;

11. *Appeals strongly* to the Government of Cambodia to ensure that those most responsible for the most serious violations of human rights are brought to account in accordance with the international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, welcomes the efforts of the United Nations Secretariat and actors of the international community in assisting the Government to this end, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the United Nations with a view to reaching an agreement;

12. *Reaffirms* that ensuring the security of persons and rights of association, assembly and expression remain matters of critical priority;

13. *Also reaffirms* the importance of the upcoming communal elections being conducted in a free and fair manner, and urges the Government of Cambodia to prepare for the communal elections accordingly;

14. *Welcomes* the adoption of a five-year action plan by the Government of Cambodia, in particular by the Ministry of Women's Affairs and Veterans, as well as other measures taken by the Government to improve the status of women, and urges the Government to continue to take appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women, including in the political and public life of the country, to combat violence against women in all its forms, and to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including seeking technical assistance;

⁸ Resolution 48/134, annex.

15. *Commends* the recent initiatives of and the progress made by the Government of Cambodia towards ensuring adequate health conditions, calls upon the Government to continue to take further measures to achieve this goal, with emphasis on ensuring adequate health conditions for women and children and minority groups and the problem of HIV/AIDS, and encourages the international community to continue to support the Government to this end;

16. *Also commends* the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia, together with non-governmental organizations and the local authorities, to improve the quality of and access to education, and calls for further measures to be taken in order to ensure the right of Cambodian children to education, especially at the primary level, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and requests the international community to provide assistance for the achievement of this goal;

17. *Welcomes* the five-year national plan against child sexual exploitation in Cambodia, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to ensure the necessary law enforcement and other measures in support of the plan in order to tackle the problem of child prostitution and trafficking in Cambodia;

18. *Notes with serious concern* the problem of child labour, calls upon the Government of Cambodia to ensure adequate health and safety conditions for children and to outlaw, in particular, the worst forms of child labour, and invites the International Labour Organization to continue to extend the necessary assistance in this regard;

19. *Also notes with serious concern* the prison conditions in Cambodia, takes note with interest of the recent adoption of the Proclamation on Administration of Prisons and Prison Procedures, commends the continued international assistance to improve the material conditions of detention, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take the further measures necessary to improve the prison conditions, especially with regard to providing the minimum standard of food and health care;

20. *Condemns* the use of racist rhetoric and acts of violence against ethnic minorities, urges an end to racial violence and vilification, and urges the Government of Cambodia to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, including the seeking of technical assistance;

21. *Welcomes* the recent actions, in particular, taken by the Government of Cambodia to combat illicit logging which has seriously threatened the full enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights by many Cambodians, including indigenous people, expresses the hope that these efforts by the Government will continue, and notes with interest the current revision of the law on land;

22. *Also welcomes* the submission of the initial reports of Cambodia under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, requests the Government of Cambodia to follow up the recommendations made by the Human Rights Committee regarding the report submitted under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, calls upon the Government to meet its reporting obligations under all other international human rights instruments, and requests the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the necessary assistance in this regard;

23. *Expresses grave concern* at the devastating consequences and destabilizing effects of the use of anti-personnel landmines on Cambodian society, welcomes the ratification by Cambodia of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,

Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction in July 1999,⁹ and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue its support and efforts for the removal of these mines and for victim assistance and mine awareness programmes, and commends donor countries for their contributions and assistance to mine action;

24. *Expresses concern* about the high number of small arms in society and commends the efforts by the Government of Cambodia to control the spread of weapons;

25. *Notes with appreciation* the use by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office in Cambodia of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, as defined in resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and invites Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, foundations and individuals to consider contributing funds to the Trust Fund;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

27. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-fifth session under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

⁹ See CD/1478.



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, Cambodia, China, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Peru, Rwanda, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

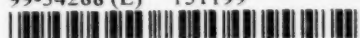
Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the international Covenants on Human Rights² and other relevant instruments,

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.



Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,³

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the protection and promotion of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,³ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,⁴ the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights⁴ and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

³ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

⁴ See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,⁵ and further requests the Secretary-General to ask Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that should contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this issue to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-fifth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

⁵ A/54/216.

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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Angola, Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe: draft resolution

Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral processes

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purpose of the United Nations to develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and to take other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace,

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling also its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, by which it approved the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further the principle enshrined in Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter of the United Nations, which establishes that nothing contained in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State or shall require the Members to submit such matters to settlement under the Charter,

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States to comply with the principles of the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations regarding the right to self-determination, by virtue of which all peoples can freely determine, without external interference, their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,



Recognizing that the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of any State should be respected in the holding of elections,

Recognizing also the richness and diversity of political systems and models for electoral processes in the world, based on national and regional particularities and various backgrounds,

Stressing the responsibility of States in ensuring ways and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in electoral processes,

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,¹ in which the Conference reaffirmed that the processes of promoting and protecting human rights should be conducted in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right, freely and without external interference, to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development and that every State has the duty to respect that right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter;

2. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples, without external interference, to determine methods and to establish institutions regarding the electoral processes and that, consequently, States should ensure, in accordance with their constitutions and national legislation, the necessary mechanism and means to facilitate full and effective popular participation in those processes;

3. *Reaffirms also* that any activities that attempt, directly or indirectly, to interfere in the free development of national electoral processes, in particular in developing countries, or that are intended to sway the results of such processes, violate the spirit and letter of the principles established in the Charter and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms further* that electoral assistance to Member States should be provided by the United Nations at the request of interested States, or in special circumstances such as cases of decolonization, or in the context of regional or international peace processes;

5. *Strongly appeals* to all States to refrain from financing political parties or groups in other States and taking any other action that undermines their electoral processes;

6. *Condemns* any act of armed aggression or threat or use of force against peoples, their elected Governments or their legitimate leaders;

7. *Reaffirms* that all countries have the obligation under the Charter to respect the right of peoples to self-determination and to determine freely their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

8. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-sixth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

¹ A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



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Agenda item 116 (b)

Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Cuba: draft resolution

Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,² family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration and that remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

Recalling its resolution 53/143 of 9 December 1998,

1. *Once again calls upon* all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, in particular those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.



3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with international legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure that discriminates against legal migrants, whether individuals or groups, by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittances to relatives in the country of origin;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".



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Agenda item 116 (c)

Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Spain, Sweden and United States of America: draft resolution

Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations and elaborated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ the International Covenants on Human Rights² and other applicable human rights instruments,

Aware that, in accordance with its Charter, the United Nations promotes and encourages respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government, and therefore expressing its grave concern that the Government of Myanmar has still not implemented its commitment to take all necessary steps towards democracy in the light of the results of the elections held in 1990,

Recalling its resolution 53/162 of 9 December 1998,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/58 of 3 March 1992,³ in which the Commission, *inter alia*, decided to nominate a special rapporteur with a given mandate, and Commission resolution 1999/17 of 23 April 1999,⁴ in which the Commission

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).

² Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2 (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.*

⁴ *Ibid.*, 1999, *Supplement No. 3 (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.*



decided to extend for one year the mandate of its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar.

Recalling the observation made by the Special Rapporteur that the absence of respect for the rights pertaining to democratic governance is at the root of all major violations of human rights in Myanmar,

Gravely concerned at the continuing and intensified repression of civil and political rights in Myanmar, as reported by the Special Rapporteur,

Deeply regretting the failure of the Government of Myanmar fully to cooperate with the relevant United Nations mechanisms, in particular the Special Rapporteur, while noting the recent increased contacts between the Government of Myanmar and the international community,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar for his interim report,⁵ and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to implement fully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur;

2. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully and without further delay with the Special Rapporteur, and to allow him, without preconditions, to conduct a field mission and to establish direct contacts with the Government and all other relevant sectors of society, thus enabling him fully to discharge his mandate, and, in this context, notes with interest that the Government has expressed that it will give serious consideration to a visit by the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Welcomes* the resumption of cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, allowing the International Committee to communicate with and visit prisoners in accordance with its standard working rules, and encourages continued cooperation;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his report⁶ and notes with deep concern his conclusion that he is unable to report concrete progress, with the exception of the visit by the International Committee of the Red Cross, on issues that the international community has raised time and again in successive resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

5. *Deplores* the continuing violations of human rights in Myanmar, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, enforced disappearances, rape, torture, inhuman treatment, mass arrests, forced labour, including the use of children, forced relocation, and denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression and movement, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

6. *Expresses its grave concern* at the increased repression of any form of public political activity, and at the arbitrary detention and arrest of those exercising their rights of freedom of thought, expression, assembly and association, as well as the harassment of their families;

7. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to release immediately and unconditionally detained political leaders and all political prisoners, to ensure their physical integrity and to permit them to participate in the process of national reconciliation;

8. *Expresses its grave concern* at the escalation in the persecution of the democratic opposition, notably over the past year, in particular members and supporters of the National

⁵ A/54/440

⁶ A/54/499

League for Democracy, at the harsh long-term prison sentences imposed, and at the use by the Government of intimidatory methods against elected representatives and members of the National League for Democracy, which forced them to resign from their positions and to dissolve their party offices:

9. *Expresses its concern* that the composition and working procedures of the National Convention do not permit either members of Parliament-elect or representatives of the ethnic minorities to express their views freely, and urges the Government of Myanmar to seek new and constructive means to promote national reconciliation;

10. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar, taking into account the assurances given by it on various occasions, to take all necessary steps towards the restoration of democracy in accordance with the will of the people as expressed in the democratic elections held in 1990 and, to this end and without delay, to engage in a substantive political dialogue with political leaders, including Aung San Suu Kyi, and representatives of ethnic groups and, in this context, notes the existence of the Committee representing the People's Parliament;

11. *Notes with grave concern* that the Government of Myanmar has failed to review its legislation, to cease to inflict the practice of forced labour on its people and to punish those exacting forced labour, which has forced the International Labour Conference to exclude the Government from further cooperation until such time as it has implemented the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry;

12. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to cease the widespread and systematic use of forced labour, and to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry of the International Labour Organization regarding the implementation of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) of the International Labour Organization, while noting the order by the Government of Myanmar issued in May 1999 directing that the power to requisition forced labour under the Towns Act and the Village Act not be exercised, as well as the invitation for a visit by the International Labour Organization, issued in October 1999;

13. *Deplores* the continued violations of human rights, in particular, those directed against persons belonging to ethnic and religious minorities, including summary executions, rape, torture, forced labour, forced portering, forced relocations, destruction of crops and fields, and dispossession of land and property, which deprives these persons of all means of subsistence;

14. *Deplores* the continuing violations of the human rights of women, especially women who are refugees, internally displaced or belong to ethnic minorities or the political opposition, in particular forced labour, sexual violence and exploitation, including rape, as reported by the Special Rapporteur;

15. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including economic and social rights, and to fulfil its obligation to end the impunity of perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military, and to investigate and prosecute alleged violations committed by government agents in all circumstances;

16. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to end the enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries and to create conditions conducive to their voluntary return and full reintegration in conditions of safety and dignity;

17. *Notes with interest* the recent visit to Myanmar by the envoy of the Secretary-General for the purpose of discussions with the Government and with political leaders,

including Aung San Suu Kyi and representatives of some ethnic minority groups, and calls upon the Government of Myanmar to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Secretary-General in order to make better use of his good offices;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-fourth session on the progress of these discussions, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-fifth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-sixth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-fifth session.



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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Canada, Colombia, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Slovenia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Ukraine:
draft resolution

National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Welcoming the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of independent, pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Convinced of the important role such national institutions play and will continue to play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and in developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

Recognizing that the United Nations has played an important role and should continue to play a more important role in assisting the development of national institutions,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,¹ which reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities and their role in remedying human

¹ A/CONF 157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



rights violations, in disseminating information on human rights and in education in human rights,

Recalling also the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,² in which Governments were urged to create or strengthen independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the human rights of women,

Noting the diverse approaches adopted throughout the world for the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level, emphasizing the universality, indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, and emphasizing and recognizing the value of such approaches to promoting universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with satisfaction the constructive participation of representatives of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in, and their positive contribution to, the deliberations of the World Conference on Human Rights, the Commission on Human Rights, as well as international seminars and workshops on human rights organized or sponsored by the United Nations,

Welcoming the strengthening of regional cooperation among national human rights institutions, including through the third Annual Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, held at Jakarta in September 1998, the second Regional Conference of African National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Durban, South Africa, in June and July 1998, the first Meeting of Mediterranean National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Marrakesh, Morocco, in April 1998, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions, held at Manila in September 1999, and the second session of the Coordinating Committee of African National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, held at Algiers in October 1999,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;³
2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in keeping with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 48/134;
3. *Recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,¹ it is the right of each State to choose the framework for the national institutions that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards;
4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or, where they already exist, to strengthen national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;
5. *Welcomes* the growing number of States establishing or considering the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights;
6. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to continue to play an active role in preventing and

² *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

³ A/54/336

combating all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international instruments;

7. *Reaffirms* the role of national institutions, where they exist, as appropriate agencies, *inter alia*, for the dissemination of human rights materials and other public information activities, including those of the United Nations, and in this context, expresses its appreciation of the active role that national institutions have played in the celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights⁴ at the national and local levels;

8. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions as part of the programme of advisory services and technical assistance in the field of human rights;

9. *Commends* the high priority given by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to work on national institutions and, in view of the expanded activities related to national institutions, encourages the High Commissioner to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made and budgetary resources provided to continue and further extend activities in support of national human rights institutions, and invites Governments to contribute additional, earmarked funds to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights for that purpose;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the increasingly active and important role of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions, as recognized in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/54 of 4 March 1994,⁵ in close cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in assisting Governments and national institutions, when requested, to follow up on relevant resolutions and recommendations concerning the strengthening of national institutions;

11. *Also notes with appreciation* the holding of regular meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions and the arrangements for the participation of national human rights institutions in the annual sessions of the Commission on Human Rights;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary assistance for holding meetings of the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions during the sessions of the Commission on Human Rights, in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, including from the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, the necessary assistance for regional meetings of national institutions;

14. *Recognizes* the important and constructive role that non-governmental organizations may play, in cooperation with national institutions, for the better promotion and protection of human rights;

15. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and effective operation of such national institutions;

⁴ Resolution 217 A (III)

⁵ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4* and corrigendum (E/1994/24 and Corr 1), chap. II, sect. A.

16. *Also encourages* all entities of the United Nations, funds and agencies to work in close cooperation with national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the implementation of the present resolution.



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Human rights questions: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, South Africa, Spain: draft resolution

Human rights and mass exoduses

The General Assembly,

Deeply disturbed by the scale and magnitude of exoduses and displacements of people in many regions of the world and by the human suffering of refugees and displaced persons, a high proportion of whom are women and children,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions, as well as those of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Commission resolution 1998/49 of 17 April 1998,¹ and the conclusions of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,² which recognized that gross violations of human rights, persecution, political and ethnic conflicts, famine and economic insecurity, poverty and generalized violence are among the root causes leading to mass exodus and displacements of people, and also recalling the second open debate that took place in the Security Council on the protection of civilians in armed conflict on 16 and 17 September 1999,

Recalling with satisfaction its endorsement, in its resolution 41/70 of 3 December 1986, of the call upon all States to promote human rights and fundamental freedoms and to refrain from denying these to individuals in their population because of nationality, ethnicity, race, gender, age, religion or language,

¹ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3 (E/1998/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

² A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.



Recalling all relevant human rights standards, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,³ the principles of international protection for refugees and the general conclusions of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on international protection and the fact that asylum applicants should have access to fair and expeditious status-determination procedures,

Stressing the importance of adherence to international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law in order to avert mass exoduses and to protect refugees and internally displaced persons, and expressing its deep concern at the lack of respect for these laws and principles, especially during armed conflict, including the denial of safe and unimpeded access to the displaced,

Noting, in this regard, the entry into force of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel of 9 December 1994,⁴ urging States to consider ratifying or acceding to the Convention, and condemning attacks and the use of force against United Nations and associated personnel, as well as personnel of international humanitarian organizations,

Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States to ensure the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons,

Recognizing the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court to ending impunity for perpetrators of certain crimes, as defined in the Statute of the Court, which lead to, or result from, mass exoduses,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts by the United Nations system to develop a comprehensive approach to address root causes and effects of movements of refugees and other displaced persons and the strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms,

Recognizing that the human rights machinery of the United Nations, including the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the human rights treaty bodies, has important capabilities to address human rights violations that cause movements of refugees and displaced persons or prevent durable solutions to their plight,

Recognizing the complementarity between the systems for the protection of human rights and for humanitarian action, in particular the mandates of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as the work of the representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, and that cooperation between them, in accordance with their respective mandates, as well as coordination between the human rights, political and security components of United Nations operations, make important contributions to the promotion and protection of human rights of persons forced into mass exodus and displacement,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on human rights and mass exoduses;⁵

2. *Strongly deplores* ethnic and other forms of intolerance as one of the major causes of forced migratory movements, and urges States to take all necessary steps to ensure respect for human rights, especially the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

³ Resolution 217 A (III).

⁴ Resolution 49/59, annex.

⁵ A/54/360.

3. *Reaffirms* the need for all Governments, intergovernmental bodies and concerned international organizations to intensify their cooperation and assistance in worldwide efforts to address human rights situations that lead to, as well as the serious problems that result from, mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons;

4. *Emphasizes* the responsibility of all States and international organizations to cooperate with those countries, particularly developing ones, affected by mass exoduses of refugees and displaced persons, and calls on Governments, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to continue to respond to assistance needs of countries hosting large numbers of refugees until durable solutions are found;

5. *Urges* the Secretary-General to give high priority and to allocate the necessary resources within the regular budget of the United Nations for the consolidation and strengthening of emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, including early warning activities in the humanitarian area, for the purpose of ensuring, *inter alia*, that effective action is taken to identify all human rights abuses which contribute to mass exoduses of persons;

6. *Invites* the special rapporteurs, special representatives and working groups of the Commission on Human Rights and the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, acting within their mandates, to seek information, where appropriate, on human rights problems which may result in mass exoduses of populations or impede their voluntary return home and, where appropriate, to include such information, together with recommendations thereon, in their reports and to bring such information to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for appropriate action in fulfilment of her mandate, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

7. *Requests* all United Nations bodies, acting within their mandates, the specialized agencies and governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with all mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and, in particular, to provide them with all relevant information in their possession on the human rights situations creating or affecting refugees and displaced persons;

8. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in the exercise of her mandate, as set out in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to coordinate human rights activities throughout the United Nations system and, in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to pay particular attention to situations which cause or threaten to cause mass exoduses or displacements and to contribute to efforts to address such situations effectively through promotion and protection measures, emergency preparedness and response mechanisms, early-warning and information sharing, technical advice, expertise and cooperation in countries of origin as well as host countries;

9. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to contribute to the creation of an environment viable for return in post-conflict societies through initiatives such as the rehabilitation of the justice system, the creation of national institutions capable of defending human rights and broad-based programmes of human rights education and strengthening of local non-governmental organizations through field presences and programmes of advisory services and technical cooperation;

10. *Welcomes with appreciation* the ongoing contributions of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to the deliberations by the Commission on Human Rights and to other international human rights bodies and mechanisms, and also welcomes the

invitation by the Commission on Human Rights for her to address the Commission at each of its future sessions;

11. *Encourages* States that have not already done so to consider acceding to the 1951 Convention⁶ and the 1967 Protocol⁷ relating to the Status of Refugees and to other relevant regional refugee instruments, as applicable, and relevant international human rights and humanitarian law instruments and to take appropriate measures to disseminate and implement these instruments domestically to encourage compliance with provisions against arbitrary and forcible displacement and greater respect for the rights of those who flee;

12. *Notes with appreciation* that a number of States not parties to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol continue to maintain a generous approach to asylum;

13. *Encourages* States parties to the 1951 Convention to provide information to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with article 35 of the Convention;

14. *Calls upon* States to ensure effective protection of, and assistance to, refugees and internally displaced persons through, *inter alia*, respecting the principle of non-refoulement, ensuring full, safe and unhindered access by humanitarian workers to displaced populations and by ensuring the security of, and civilian and humanitarian nature of, camps and settlements for refugee and internally displaced persons;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution as it pertains to all aspects of human rights and mass exoduses, including detailed information on the programmatic, institutional, administrative, financial and management efforts instituted to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to avert new flows of refugees and other displaced persons, to tackle the root causes of such flows, to protect those who have become displaced during mass exoduses and to facilitate their return and reintegration;

16. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-sixth session.

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545

⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 606, No. 8791.